

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY BWG:MDRAPER:CF

APPROVED BY P:PHABIB

NEA - MR ATHERTON

S/S : JLHOGANSON

----- 012108

Z 251640Z JUL 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT FLASH

AMEMBASSY ATHENS FLASH

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 184235

EXDIS//FOR SEELYE FROM HABIB

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: AEMR, AFSP, APER, LE, PFOR

SUBJECT: GEORGE LANE AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) BEIRUT 6600 (B) BEIRUT 6601 (C) BEIRUT 6589

(D) ATHENS 7495

1. FROM WHAT WE CAN ASCERTAIN HERE, GEORGE LANE CAN BRING WITH HIM IN ONE REPEAT ONE POUCH ALL CRITICALLY NEEDED COMMUNICATIONS MATERIAL, WHICH INCLUDE SKYLINK REPLACEMENT PARTS, KW-7 AND CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY MATERIAL. WHILE THE PLO MAY BE PREPARED TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF 2,000 LBS. OF OTHER EQUIPMENT, WE HERE CONSIDER IT NOT REPEAT NOT WORTH- WHILE TO JEOPARDIZE THE EVACUATION WITH THIS KIND OF ARRANGEMENT. THE PRESS WILL BE SEEING WHAT IS HAPPENING AND THE FATAH RANK AND FILE MAY GET THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT THE SIZEABLE AMOUNT OF STUFF WE WILL BE BRINGING IN IN AN OPERATION THAT IS DESIGNED TO TAKE AS MANY PEOPLE OUT OF BEIRUT AS POSSIBLE. BECAUSE THIS OTHER EQUIPMENT IS USEFUL

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BUT NOT CRITICALLY ESSENTIAL, WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE

BROUGHT INTO BEIRUT BY ROAD FROM DAMASCUS AT SOME LATER POINT.

2. THEREFORE, ADDITIONAL 2,000

LBS OF EQUIPMENT WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED INTO BEIRUT IN THIS OPERATION.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO BEIRUT 6601, THERE HAS BEEN A MIS-UNDERSTANDING. LANE WAS NOT REPEAT NOT TO BRING ONE OF THE SPECIAL UNITS, OF WHICH BEIRUT HAS THREE. WHAT WE HAD IN MIND WAS SIMPLY AN ORDINARY SONY TYPE RECEIVER SUPERIOR TO THE ZENITH TRANSOCEANIC. IT WAS A MARGINAL ITEM AND LANE'S TRANSFER TO THE SIXTH FLEET FROM ATHENS INSTEAD OF NICOSIA MAKES THE MATTER IRRELEVANT.

4. BEIRUT PLEASE FLASH YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF ABOVE TO ATHENS AND DEPARTMENT. ROBINSON

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NNN

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